

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

31 1. (currently amended) A packaging material comprising at least one layer (11) of plastic that prevents the transmission of ultra-violet light, which plastic layer comprises particles (11c) of carbon black in an amount ranging from about 0.04 to about 1% of the total weight of the plastic layer (11) wherein said carbon black particles are randomly distributed throughout the plastic layer; and light-reflecting mineral particles (11b) in an amount ranging from about 3 to about 80% of the total weight of the plastic layer (11), and wherein said ~~carbon black and said~~ light-reflecting mineral particles are uniformly distributed throughout the plastic layer.

2. (previously presented) The packaging material of Claim 1, wherein the plastic is a polyolefin.

3. (previously presented) The packaging material of Claim 1, wherein the plastic is a high density polyethylene or a copolymer of ethylene and propylene with a melt index between 0.5 and 5 according to American Society for Testing and Materials (2.16 kg; 230°C).

4. (Canceled)

5. (previously presented) The packaging material of Claim 1, wherein the plastic layer preventing the transmission of ultra-violet light is surrounded by outer layers (12 and 13) of plastic on both sides of the plastic layer (11), said outer layers (12 and 13) being permanently united to the layer (11) without intermediate binder or adhesive.

6. (previously presented) The packaging material of Claim 5, wherein the plastic of the two outer layers (12 and 13) is the same plastic as the plastic of the layer that prevents the transmission of ultra-violet light (11).

7. (previously presented) The packaging material as claimed in Claim 5, characterized in that of the two outer plastic layers (12 and 13) one includes a white pigment or other white colouring agent so as to conceal the interjacent layer (11) containing carbon black, at least from one direction.

8. (previously presented) A package for light-sensitive food products, characterized in that it is produced by a combined extrusion and blow moulding operation of a packaging material as claimed in Claim 1.

9. (currently amended) A package for light-sensitive food products, comprising an intermediate plastic layer and two outer layers on either side of said intermediate layer, wherein said intermediate layer comprises about 0.04% to about 1.0% by weight light-absorbing material randomly distributed throughout said intermediate layer, and about 3% to about 80% light-reflecting material, ~~wherein said light-reflecting material and said light-absorbing material are~~ uniformly distributed throughout said intermediate layer such that said intermediate layer prevents the transmission of ultra-violet light;

and wherein said two outer layers are fabricated from the same plastic as the intermediate layer, and at least one of said outer layers comprises less than about 5% by weight of a white pigment such that the package has a white appearance.

10. (previously presented) The package of claim 9 wherein the light-absorbing material is carbon black; and the light-reflecting material is selected from the group consisting of: montmorillonite, dolomite, calcium carbonate, talcum, mica, volastonite, and clay.

11. (previously presented) The package of claim 10, wherein the intermediate layer comprises about 65% by weight of the light-reflecting material.

12. (previously presented) The packaging material of claim 1, wherein the light-reflecting material is selected from the group consisting of: montmorillonite, dolomite, calcium carbonate, talcum, mica, volastonite, and clay.

13. (previously presented) The packaging material of claim 1, wherein the layer of plastic further comprises a white pigment.

14. (currently amended) A packaging material comprising at least two layers of plastic wherein:

a first layer of plastic comprises about 0.04% to about 1.0% by weight of a light absorbing material randomly distributed throughout said first layer and about 3% to about 80% by weight of a light-reflecting material ~~and said light-absorbing material and said light-reflecting material are~~ uniformly distributed throughout said first layer;

a second layer of plastic comprises less than about 5% by weight of a white pigment uniformly distributed throughout said second layer; and

wherein said first and said second layers are combined such that the layers prevent the transmission of ultra-violet light while presenting a white appearance when viewed from the second layer side of the material.

15. (previously presented) The packaging material of claim 14, wherein the plastic of both first and second layers is a polyolefin.

16. (previously presented) The packaging material of claim 14, wherein the light-absorbing material is carbon black and the light-reflecting material is selected from the group consisting of: montmorillonite, dolomite, calcium carbonate, talcum, mica, volastonite, and clay.
